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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. 09/518,624 Confirmation No. 5802
Applicant Donald B. Peddicord, et al
Filed March 3, 2000
TC/A.U. 1744
Examiner Krisanne Marie Thornton
For SALT PLATFORM WITH HUB HAVING LOCKING ELEMENT

Docket No. 11162/2001
Customer No. 24349

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

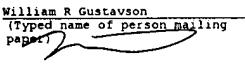
AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed September 25, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)	
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail and in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450	
Date: <u>December 23, 2003</u>	William R Gustavson (Typed name of person mailing paper) 
(Signature of person mailing paper)	